

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 SOFIA 00483 301313 Z

46

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EB-11 COME-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09

H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-15 USIA-12 SCA-01 BNDE-00 SNM-02 VO-03 FBO-01 OC-06

RSR-01 /117 W

----- 066340

R 301130 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6440

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SOFIA 0483

E. O. 11652 N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, BU, US

SUBJECT: BILATERAL RELATIONS FOLLOWING POSTPONEMENT OF LUKANOV
VISIT

REF: STATE 077715

1. SUMMARY. LOCAL SOURCES ARE REPEATING ZDRAVCHEV' S
ASSURANCES (REFTEL) OF GOB' S WILLINGNESS TO SEEK
IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH US DESPITE MINOR SETBACK OVER
LUKANOV VISIT. EMBASSY SEES NO SIGNS GOB INCLINED
RETALIATE. END SUMMARY.

2. WE HAVE BEEN CAREFULLY LOOKING FOR SIGNS OF GOB
ATTITUDES IN WAKE OF DEFERMENT LUKANOV VISIT. MFA
OFFICIALS APPEAR TO LOOK UPON INCIDENT AS UNFORTUNATE
AND HAVE EXPRESSED DESIRE TO FORGET IT AS QUICKLY AS
POSSIBLE IN ORDER TO RESCHEDULE LUKANOV VISIT IN NEAR
FUTURE. GOB HAS SHOWN GOOD WILL IN CONSULAR CONVENTION
NEGOTIATIONS, ALTHOUGH NUMBER OF DIFFICULT ISSUES
REMAIN TO BE RESOLVED. CHIEF, NORTH AMERICAN SECTION,
MFA, TOLD EMBOFF APRIL 28 THAT ZDRAVCHEV' S STATEMENTS
TO BAKER HAD BEEN APPROVED AT HIGH LEVEL AND REPRESENTED
VIEWS OF FONMIN MLADENOV. IN RESPONSE TO SPECIFIC
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 SOFIA 00483 301313 Z

QUESTION HE SAID GOB DID NOT CONTEMPLATE RETALIATION BUT VIEWED INCIDENT AS INPAST. ATTENTION OF BOTH SIDES SHOULD BE ON FUTURE. IN ADDITION TO CONSULAR NEGOTIATIONS, HE SAID, OTHER PROGRAMS PLANNED WOULD GO ON, INCLUDING NARCOTICS TRAINING PROGRAM MAY 7-28.

3. MINISTRY FOREIGN TRADE OFFICIALS, INCLUDING LUKANOV, HAVE ALSO EXPRESSED DESIRE TO RESCHEDULE VISIT IN NEAR FUTURE. LUKANOV SOUGHT OUT EMBOFF AT RECEPTION APRIL 27 TO SAY THAT HE, TOO, HAD NO HARD FEELINGS OVER POSTPONEMENT OF VISIT. AWARE OF ZDRAVCHEV- BAKER CONVERSATION, HE SAID THAT HIS SCHEDULE WAS RELATIVELY FREE IN MAY- JUNE AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT " WE CAN STILL DO BUSINESS" AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. HE NOTED THAT A NUMBER OF BULGARIAN BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES WERE TO HAVE ACCOMPANIED HIM TO US AND SAID HE PERSONALLY FELT THEY SHOULD CONTINUE PLAN TO VISIT US CORPORATIONS THIS MONTH.

4. LOCAL PRESS, WHILE CONTINUING TO BERATE US ON USUAL ISSUES, E. G. VIETNAM, CAMBODIA, HAS DROPPED ISSUE OF BEIRUT RAIDS. ONE NEWSPAPER SOURCE IN POSITION TO KNOW, HOWEVER, EXPRESSED IGNORANCE OF ANY DIRECTIVES TO WITHHOLD COMMENT ON STORY OR REGRAIN FROM ARTICLES INJURIOUS TO US- BULGARIAN RELATIONS. NONETHELESS, WE WOULD EXPECT THAT MEDIA WILL IGNORE ISSUE AS NO LONGER NEWSWORTHY.

5. FROM HERE IT APPEARS THAT DECISION, AS PAINFUL AS IT MUST BE FOR SOME, HAS BEEN TAKEN TO IGNORE POSTPONEMENT AND MAKE PROGRESS ON CONSULAR CONVENTION AS EVIDENCE OF GOB' S GOOD WILL. WE ALSO TOLD GOB CONSIDERATION PROGRESSING ON IMPROVED VISA REGIME AND EXCHANGE OF CHANCERY CONSTRUCTION SITES. ON OTHER HAND, WE STILL UNABLE CLEAR POUCHES ON DAY OF ARRIVAL AND PRSPECTS FOR CULTURAL CONTACTS AS BLEAK AS EVER. EMB CONCURS NONETHELESS THAT RESCHEDULING LUKANOV IS STEP WE SHOULD BE PREPARED TO TAKE.
HOUSTON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SOFIA00483
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SOFIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730452/aaaaxmo.tel
Line Count: 101
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 STATE 077715
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29-Aug-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <25 FEB 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 980203
Subject: BILATERAL RELATIONS FOLLOWING POSTPONEMENT OF LUKANOV VISIT
TAGS: PFOR, BU, US
To: EUR
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005